



US House New York District 3

HOW TO USE THE AARP VOTERS' GUIDE:

AARP produced this guide to help you find out what candidates are saying about health and financial security in their own words.

HAVING TROUBLE CUTTING THROUGH THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CLUTTER?

AARP is committed to helping you get the facts you need to choose candidates who reflect your views and values. We are nonpartisan – we don't support or oppose any political candidates or contribute any money to campaigns or political action committees. Our priority is ensuring you know where the candidates stand before you cast your vote.



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Social Security

How would you protect Social Security for today's seniors and strengthen it for future generations?

AARP's Position:

Social Security should continue to guarantee that Americans who work and pay into the system receive benefits based on what they earn and contribute. Benefits should keep up with inflation and last for as long as an individual lives. We must strengthen Social Security for the future and protect benefits for people who count on them most, including surviving spouses and families, lower-wage workers, and disabled individuals who no longer can work. Social Security must be put on stable financial ground, but any adjustments should be implemented gradually so changes do not impact those in or near retirement.

Steve J. Israel (Dem):

Rep. Israel believes that we need to protect and preserve Social Security [...]. He has opposed efforts to privatize Social Security [...] because of the high risk involved with market fluctuations. Rep. Israel is open to Social Security reform efforts that do not turn the program into a stock market risk or otherwise undermine a program on which so many seniors depend. In March 2009, the Congressional Budget Office forecast that there will not be a Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment for at least three years, making things even harder on seniors who are struggling to get by in this difficult economic climate. (Source: Israel House Website, <http://ow.ly/xYmwi>)

Grant M. Lally (Rep):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Medicare

How would you put Medicare on stronger financial ground and protect today's seniors and future retirees from rising health costs?

AARP's Position:

Medicare should be strengthened and improved so both current and future generations can count on having access to high-quality, affordable coverage. Medicare should continue to guarantee a specific set of benefits that are affordable and meet a person's health care needs. Medicare should offer choices that ensure access to high-quality health care. Medicare should improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of care by emphasizing value and cracking down on fraud, waste, and abuse.

Steve J. Israel (Dem):

Steve has fought to protect and improve Social Security and Medicare. [...] He supported legislation to close the Medicare "doughnut hole." He has taken on the big drug companies and supported legislation allowing the government to negotiate lower drug prices for Medicare recipients. Steve also supports common sense legislation to lower prescription costs over all by allowing safe re-importation of cheaper prescription drugs and expanding access to generics. Steve wrote widely-supported legislation that would expand cancer treatment options for Medicare patients. (Source: Israel Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xYmT6>)

Grant M. Lally (Rep):

Lally emphasizes strong support for protecting Medicare and improving healthcare altogether. "Republicans must have a free-market alternative ready to go," he said. "It must include a deductible for individuals and families, and introduce greater choice and more competition." (Source: Newsmax, <http://ow.ly/yrgPd>)

Financial Security

How would you help Americans save so they can secure their future and live independently as they age?

AARP's Position:

More opportunities and incentives should be available for all Americans to plan and save so they can have a more secure future. Freedom from age discrimination is a fundamental right and critical to Americans' ability to have a secure retirement. Every worker should be treated fairly, regardless of age. We need to support family caregivers who make it possible for more seniors to live in their homes and communities, where they want, rather than taxpayers and struggling families paying for costlier care.

Steve J. Israel (Dem):

Affordable health care is increasingly dependent on affordable prescription medicines. [...] The cost of prescription drugs is increasing at double-digit rates, and seniors on fixed incomes are disproportionately affected by this. Rep. Israel believes we should fund research on the effectiveness of cheaper alternatives to heavily marketed drugs. He is also fighting the powerful drug lobby in Washington to permit the re-importation of safe, legal drugs from Canada, where American consumers can pay up to 50 percent less for their prescriptions. (Source: Israel House Website, <http://ow.ly/xYmwi>)

Grant M. Lally (Rep):

Massive red tape, crushing government regulations, and punitive government audits are strangling small business. Young graduates can't find good jobs. We need to cut back on destructive government regulations, and free America's businesses to work, create jobs, and rebuild our economy. (Source: Lally for Congress)



After years of working hard and paying into the system, AARP believes you've earned the right to know where the candidates stand on the issues that matter to you and your family. This Voters' Guide will help you find out where the candidates stand on health and financial security in their own words, so you can decide which candidate best reflects your views and values.

To find out more about these issues and voting information, please visit aarp.org/yourvote.

Voter Information Inside

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